

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /069 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/NE: EWFLEISHER

7/11/73 EXT.21563

APPROVED BY EUR: G.SPRINGSTEEN

EUR/NE:SGEORGE

DOD/ISA:VMCHENRY

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O 122011Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 136511

E.O 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, NO, IC

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH DEFENSE MINISTER KLEPPE

FOR CHARGE

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A MEMCON OF A MEETING BY THE SECDEF SCHLESINGER AND MODKLEPPE WHICH MAY BE OF USE IN YOUR MEETING WITH KLEPPE.

2. QUOTE PARTICIPANTS: NORWEGIAN SIDE:MR. JOHAN KLEPPE, MINISTER OF DEFENSE OF NORWAY, GENERAL ZELNER-GUNDERSEN, CHIEF OF THE DEFENSE STAFF. UNITED STATES SIDE:MR. JAMES R. SCHLESINGER, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, AMBASSADOR ROBERT C. HILL, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (ISA), MR. JOHN H. MORSE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (ISA) EUROPEAN AND NATO AFFAIRS, VADM RAY PEET, USN, DIRECTOR, DEFENSE SECURITY ASSISTANCE AGENCY, COL ROBERT C. TAYLOR, MILITARY ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE; MRS. VIRGINIA MCHENRY, ASSISTANT FOR NORTHERN EUROPE (OASD/ISA). TIME: 1700-1800 HOURS, THURSDAY, 28 JUNE 1973. LOCATION: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE'S OFFICE, THE PENTAGON.

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3. QUOTE 1. (S) INTRODUCTORY REMARKS. MR. KLEPPE IN HIS OPENING REMARKS STATED THAT BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF THE PRESENCE OF OIL IN THE CONTINENTAL SHELF, NORWAY IS FEELING THE PRESSURE FROM THE QUOTE OTHER SIDE,QUOTE--

AND WILL HAVE TO GIVE SOME PRIORITY TO WHATEVER MEANS AND FORCES ARE NEEDED TO LOOK AFTER THE INTERESTS IN THIS AREA. ALSO NORWAY IS SATISFIED TO CONTINUE BILATERAL COOPERATION IN FURNISHING US WITH INTELLIGENCE AND WARNING INFORMATION.

4. QUOTE 2. (S) CONVENTIONAL BALANCE. MR. SCHLESINGER EXPLAINED THAT THE PURPOSE OF HIS RECENT INTERVENTION IN BRUSSELS WAS TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF CONVENTIONAL DETERRENCE, REDUCE THE POSSIBILITY OF RECOURSE TO NUCLEAR EXCHANGE, AND REPAIR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL DAMAGE THAT RESULTS IF THE CAPABILITY OF OUR CONVENTIONAL FORCE IS VIEWED AS HOPELESS. IN REGARD TO DEFENDING THE FLANKS, PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATIONS HAVE APPLIED POLICY APPROPRIATE FOR THE CENTRAL REGION, BUT HE INTENDS TO GIVE CAREFUL AND SEPERATE ATTENTION TO THE FLANKS TO DETER A SOVIET TEMPTATION TO EXERT PRESSURE IN THE NORTH.

5. QUOTE 3. (S) ICELAND. MR. KLEPPE RAISED THE QUESTION OF ICELAND. MR. SCHLESINGER SUGGESTED THAT THE NORDIC PARTNERS WERE IN A BETTER POSITION TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH THE ICELANDIC GOVERNMENT THAN THE US OR THE BRITISH. MR. KLEPPE SAID THAT THE DANES FOLLOWED THE NORWEGIAN LEAD AND FURTHERMORE WERE IN THE UNFAVORABLE POSITION OF BEING FORMER QUOTE MASTERS QUOTE. MR. KLEPPE SAID THAT THE NORWEGIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS GAVE THEIR AMBASSADOR TO ICELAND A PAPER ON THE MILITARY IMPORTANCE OF KEFLAVIK TO THE ALLIANCE IN PROTECTING MOVEMENT INTO THE NORWEGIAN SEA FROM THE SOUTH, AND POINTING OUT THE IMPORTANCE OF ANY CHANGE OF STATUS IN ICELAND TO THE NORDIC BALANCE. WHEN ASKED BY ICELANDERS IF NORWAY COULD TAKE OVER THE IDF MISSIONS, THE NORWEGIANS RESPONDED THAT THEY DIDN'T HAVE THE SPECIALISTS FOR IT. MR. KLEPPE REPEATEDLY MADE THE POINT THAT THE IDF AND FISHING ISSUES CANNOT BE SEPARATED. THIS DISPUTE IS EVEN INFLUENCING ATTITUDES TOWARD NATO IN NORWEGIAN FISHING DISTRICTS.

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ALTHOUGH WE CANNOT EXPECT A WRITTEN AGREEMENT FROM ICELAND TO STOP HARASSMENT IF UK FRIGATES WERE WITHDRAWN, PERHAPS A QUOTE GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT QUOTE MIGHT BE POSSIBLE. HE NOTED THAT PERMREP TOMASSON HAD TOLD THE NORWEGIANS THAT HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT A PRECIPITATE ICELANDIC REACTION AND FELT THE US HAS GIVEN ICELAND TOO LITTLE SUPPORT IN THE FISH STRUGGLE. MR. SCHLESINGER NOTED THE DIFFICULTY OF THE US POSITION SINCE THE US IS SYMPATHETIC TO BOTH SIDES. HE

HOPED THAT THE DEFENSE AND FISHERIES ISSUES COULD BE SEPARATED AND SUGGESTED THAT WE SHOULD THINK OF MEASURES TO MAKE THE ICELANDERS FEEL MORE A PART OF THE COMMON INTEREST WE ALL SHARE IN THE PRESERVATION OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION. HE WELCOMED ANY IDEAS ON THE SUBJECT. THERE MIGHT BE SOME

ACTIONS THE US CAN TAKE TO BRING HOME THE ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES OF THE IDF TO ICELAND AND TO EXPAND THE ROLE OF ICELANDERS. HE NOTED THAT THE LOSS OF THE BASE WOULD MEAN A \$ 1/2 BILLION EXPENSE TO NATO INFRASTRUCTURE, AND ALL WOULD BE HURT BY THIS UNNECESSARY EXPENSE.

5. QUOTE NUCLEAR QUESTION. NUCLEAR MATTERS IN NORWAY WERE DISCUSSED. SECDEF MADE CLEAR ANY FOLLOW-ON WOULD HAVE TO BE CLEARLY AT NORWAY'S INITIATIVE.END QUOTE.
ROGERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE136511
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EWFLEISHER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS SPRINGSTEEN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730737/aaaabazz.tel
Line Count: 132
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <02-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEETING WITH DEFENSE MINISTER KLEPPE FOR CHARGE
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, NO, IC
To: OSLO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005